

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1, and 4-51 are pending in this application.

Claims 2 and 3 are canceled without prejudice.

Claims 1, 6, 8, and 11 are amended.

Regarding the Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication that claims 12-51 are allowable.

Applicant further appreciates that claims 3, 4, 6-8 and 11 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

As such, Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the limitations of allowable claim 3 and intervening claim 2. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is now allowable.

Claim 6 has been rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of base claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 6 is now ready for allowance.

Claim 8 has been rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim 1 and is therefore ready for allowance.

Claim 11 has been rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of base claim 1 and is therefore ready for allowance.

Regarding the § 102 Rejection

Claims 1, 2, 5, 9, and 10 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(a) for being anticipated by Ginter et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,237,786). Applicant respectfully submits that although Ginter is mentioned in this Office Action, Ginter is not listed on the Examiner's Notice of References Cited, Form PTO-892. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner provide an additional form PTO-892 with the Ginter reference cited thereon.

Applicant has amended the claims with allowable subject matter and therefore overcomes the § 102 rejection by rendering it moot. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 5, 9 and 10 are all allowable over this cited art. Applicant respectfully requests that this § 102 rejection be withdrawn.

In view of this amendment, Applicant believes that the pending application is in condition for allowance and a Notice therefore is respectfully requested.

Dated:

Respectfully submitted,

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